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Jun 25, 2002

US-PAT-NO: 6410705

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6410705 B1

**TITLE:** Nucleotide sequences coding for the *thrE* gene and process for the enzymatic production of L-threonine using coryneform bacteria

**DATE-ISSUED:** June 25, 2002

**INVENTOR-INFORMATION:**

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**US-CL-CURRENT:** 536/23.2; 435/115, 435/193, 435/252.32, 435/320.1

**CLAIMS:**

What is claimed is:

1. An isolated DNA molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of either SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4.
2. The isolated DNA molecule of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
3. The isolated DNA molecule of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.
4. The DNA molecule of claim 1, wherein said DNA consists of a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2.
5. The DNA molecule of claim 1, wherein said DNA consists of a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:4.
6. The isolated DNA of any one of claims 1-3, wherein said DNA is replicable in coryneform microorganisms.
7. A coryneform microorganism transformed with the DNA of any one of claims 1-5.
8. *Corynebacterium glutamicum* DM368-2 pZ1thrE, filed under accession number DSM 12840.

9. The isolated DNA molecule of claim 1, wherein said DNA molecule comprises the nucleotide sequence of either SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 and wherein said nucleotide sequence optionally has one or more functionally neutral sense mutations.
10. The isolated DNA molecule of claim 9, wherein said DNA molecule consists of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 and optionally contains one or more functionally neutral sense mutations.
11. The isolated DNA molecule of claim 9, wherein said DNA molecule consists of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 and optionally contains one or more functionally neutral sense mutations.